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USIB-D-16.2/42  
8 February 1961

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

Validity Study on NIE 41-60  
Probable Developments in Japan  
dated 9 February 1960

The attached Validity Study of NIE 41-60 was noted by the  
Intelligence Board on 7 February 1961 (USIB-M-139, item 9.b.).



Executive Secretary

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NIE 41-60 has held up well and we believe that its general thrust is still valid.

Although we did not anticipate the full scope of the May-June riots and their consequences, the estimate highlighted the uncertain political position of Kishi and the explosive issue of securing ratification of the US-Japan Security Treaty. For example, paragraph 12 stated:

"During the next 12 months, Kishi and his government will face some very difficult tasks. The most important will be the ratification of the revised US-Japan security treaty and related agreements which is now scheduled for Diet debate in the spring of 1960. The issues involved bear directly upon many of the sensitive aspects of Japanese politics and public susceptibilities."

Paragraph 33 stated:

"The Japan Socialist Party and its well-organized supporters, faced with the certainty that the treaty will be ratified if the Diet vote follows party lines, will probably use demonstrations, strikes, parliamentary obstructionism, and possibly a Diet boycott to prevent or delay ratification."

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